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The Bison, September 26, 1944

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The Bison

Petit Jean Staff Is Chosen; Tipps To Be The Assistant Editor

George Tipps, senior from Childress, Texas, has been selected as assistant editor of the Petit Jean it is announced by Miss Ruby Jean Wesson, editor, and Clinton Rutherford, business manager.

The staff selections are made each fall from members of the senior class which publishes the college yearbook.

Other members of the staff which are announced are as follows: Sara Stubblefield, class editor; Roberta Brandon, advertising manager; Robert Hawkins, circulation manager; Mabel Ford Seneli, calendar editor; Dale Larsen, religious editor; Harold Holland, quotations editor; Ann Richmond, organization editor; Tolbert Vaughan, Betty Maple, Christine Neal, co-snapshot editors; Wyatt Sawyer, boys' sports editor; Fanajo Douthitt, girls' sports editor; Carmen Price, Bertha Smith, Bessie May Quarles, secretaries.

Reservations for the annual are now being taken by designated members of the senior class. They may be made either by paying the full price of five dollars or by making a one dollar down payment.

Students Pay Honor To J. N. Armstrong

Mary Hargraves:—"Harding has suffered a great loss. He is the best man I have ever known."

Bob Hawkins:—"The greatest man of God in his generation."

Keith Coleman:—"Only in Heaven will we know all the fruits of his great life."

Ruby Jean Wesson:—"His personal interest in all the students will be missed."

Lloyd Collier:—"We should all strive to maintain that Christ-like spirit that prevailed in his presence."

Arthur Peddle:—"He lived the life he preached."

Pat Halber:—"His service to all made him great."

Forest Magness:—"The complete educator, soul, spirit, body and mind."

Dot Johns:—"A great man lives on forever."

Buddy Vaughn:—"His influence made a person want to do right."

Delilah Trantum:—"I am a better person for having known him."

Wyatt Sawyer:—"If young people ever had a friend, it was Brother Armstrong."

Bonnie Bergner:—"His spirituality influenced the lives of all of us."

Harold Holland:—"I have never learned to love any man so much as Brother Armstrong in such a short time."

Bessie May Quarles:—"He was the most unselfish person I ever knew."

Jerry Young:—"His life reminds me of this quotation: 'I'd rather see a sermon than hear one any day'."

T. Coy Porter Wins Contest

Dr. George S. Benson announced in the opening chapel last Tuesday morning that T. Coy Porter was the winner of the 1944 Samuel B. Pettingill Constitutional Essay Contest.

Runners up to Porter in the finals of the contest were Wyatt Sawyer and Dale Larsen.

The winner's essay, "Freedom for All" won for him the award which consists of fifty and ten dollar cash prizes.

ANNOUNCEMENT

You may mail your Bison home or away free of charge. The name and address should be written plainly on the top right hand corner of the front page. Bisons must be in the Bison office, Grey Gables, by noon Wednesday. They may be placed inside the office or slipped under the door. Subscriptions for students are paid for in the activity fees.

Nine Added to School Faculty

Nine new names have been added this year to the growing list of faculty members at Harding. They are James D. Bales, Neil B. Cope, Hugh H. Rhodes, Leslie Burke, Jess Rhodes, Miss Norma Ruth Moser, Miss Annie May Alston, H. D. Chronic, and Mabrey Miller.

James Bales comes to Harding from Los Angeles as instructor in Bible. He graduated from Harding in 1937 and has received his Master's degree in English and education from Peabody College in Nashville, Tenn. in 1936. Since then he has attended Ontario College of Education and the University of California in work toward his Ph.D. While at Harding, Professor Bales was active in debating, sports, and a member of the Sub-T club. He is married to the former Mary Smart of Toronto and has one child, Mary Ethel.

Neil Cope returns to the faculty as associate professor of English and professor of journalism. He attended Murray State Teacher's College in Murray, Kentucky, and received his B. A. from Harding in 1934. He received his M. A. from Louisiana State University in 1935 and was a member of the faculty from 1936 to 1942. In work toward his Ph.D. Mr. Cope has attended Tulane University, Harvard, University of Louisiana, and Northwestern University, and last year received his M. S. J. from Northwestern. While in Chicago he handled industrial news for the Chicago Journal of Commerce.

Hugh Rhodes graduated from Harding in 1940 and received his master's from George Peabody in Nashville. While here he was a ministerial student

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Opening Chapel Is Memorial Service

Opening chapel last Tuesday morning was made a memorial service to the late J. N. Armstrong.

Dr. G. S. Benson opened the program with a brief sketch of Brother Armstrong's life. T. H. Sherrill, minister of the down-town church, told something of his recent work with that congregation. He related comments of various members of the congregation regarding Brother Armstrong's work with them this past summer.

Dr. Joseph Pryor, a former student of Brother Armstrong and now a member of the faculty here, described the funeral services. S. A. Bell, who worked with Brother Armstrong for many years, told the story of his life and work in Christian education.

F. W. Mattox, also a former student of Brother Armstrong and fellow teacher with him, discussed Brother Armstrong's vision for Harding College. He gave the following as his three major aims: keeping Harding College Christian, building character and advancement of school standards. Dr. Benson then urged the present student body to work toward Brother Armstrong's goal for the school and mentioned some ways of attaining it.

L. C. Sears, dean, told of the Christ-like personality of Brother Armstrong and pronounced the benediction.

Death of J. N. Armstrong Concludes Long Service in Christian Education

Headed College Eleven Years

John Nelson Armstrong, who was destined to influence so profoundly the course of Christian education for more than forty years, was born January 6, 1870, on a little farm near Gadsden, Tennessee. From his mother he inherited positiveness of nature and acuteness in judgment; from his father, emotional intensity, friendliness, and a fine sense of humor. From both he received those principles of simplicity, honesty, and faithfulness to responsibility which were so outstanding in his own life.

In spite of the meager income of the family they always found means to secure the necessary books and to keep the children in school, even when half the cost must be covered by private tuition.

In 1887 he entered West Tennessee Christian College to prepare for the law, but he soon came to the conclusion that he ought to preach instead. He was invited to give the commencement "oration" when he returned that second year.

From West Tennessee Christian College he transferred to the Baptist University at Jackson, and in 1893 he entered the Nashville Bible School, now David Lipscomb College. In 1895 he became a full instructor and the following year he and Woodson Harding were married and started housekeeping on a salary of \$16 a month.

When the Potter Bible College was established in 1901 at Bowling Green, Kentucky, and J. A. Harding was invited to become its first president, he was accompanied by Brother Armstrong, whose influence and popularity as a teacher had become second only to Harding's.

In 1905 he resigned at Bowling Green and with a small group of loyal friends he became the first president of the Western Bible and Literary College at Odessa, Missouri. Hardly had the new school been established, however, when his health gave way, and he was warned by doctors to take a year's rest in New Mexico.

From this "vacation", however, he was recalled in August of 1908 to take the presidency of Cordell Christian College, Cordell, Oklahoma, where he served until the closing of the school under the war conditions of 1918. During these ten years he succeeded in securing the first standardization ever given to any of the Christian schools.

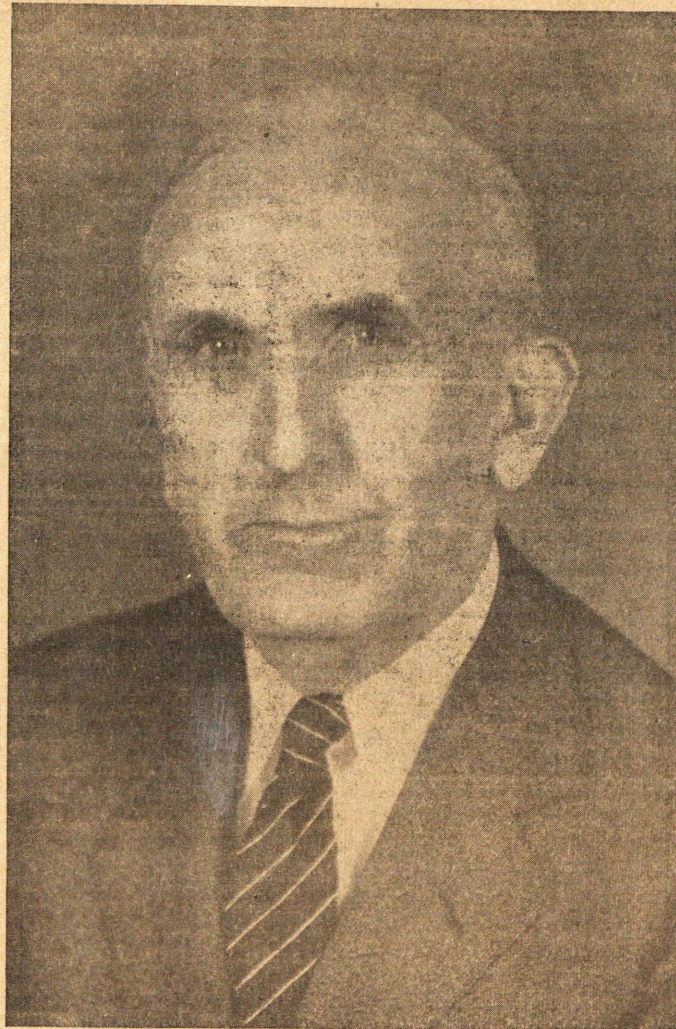
He spent the winter of 1918-19 at Harper, Kansas, and in the spring, upon the resignation of the acting president, he was elected president of Harper College. Under his administration the institution ceased to be a local school and attracted students from distant parts of the country.

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SHERMAN La NIER DIES

Sherman LaNier, a graduate of Harding and who preached in Searcy in a series of protracted meetings last spring, passed away on September 12 after suffering a stroke shortly before. He was on the way from Valdosta, Ga., to Chicago to preach when he died.

Dean L. C. Sears went to Bernie, Mo., on September 15 to conduct the funeral services.



Excerpts Of Letters Indicates Influence Of J. N. Armstrong

The following are excerpts of letters or notes of comfort which were sent to Mrs. Armstrong and Dean and Mrs. L. C. Sears.

"I wonder how many souls will be there in Heaven to meet him who would not have been there had he never lived."—Miss L. M. Barr.

"No man ever had a greater power of making people want to do right than Brother Armstrong. Truly he lives in the hearts of thousands of us who knew and loved him. His love, his labor, his sacrifices are appreciated by loyal Christians everywhere. I am confident that he is now in the celestial city and heaven will be sweeter for us all because he is there."—George W. DeHoff.

"I learned many great lessons from him, many of which I appreciate more as the years pass."—Lloyd L. Smith.

"J. N. Armstrong was a much greater man than many believed. We did not always agree on minor matters, but I know I never doubted for a minute the purity of his heart and the sincerity of his motives."—W. W. Otey.

"His going seemed like the passing of Enoch. 'He was not for God took him'."—Mrs. W. D. Hockaday Jr.

"Lessons taught those who were students of Bro. Armstrong will live and bear fruit in them through the coming years."—C. R. Nichol.

"From the many things that I have heard of your father over a period of many years, you have a rich heritage indeed."—Mrs. H. E. Speck.

"As I think of it, I am reminded of the words of Edwin Markham in his poem on Abraham Lincoln when he said, 'Like a lordly cedar falling, leaving a blank against the sky'."—A. R. Holton.

"How happy he must be to rest from his labors in the society of the faithful of all ages, to mingle with the Patriarchs and Moses and Elijah."—Robert G. Neil.

"He always prayed as if he had one hand in the hand of God."—T. Q. Martin.

"His troubles are all over. He is at home with the Lord," which "is very far better" than anything earth can afford."—R. C. Bell.

"It was very fitting that he who contented for peace—peace in Christ and peace with the brethren—should have finished his course in the most peaceful way."—Mrs. L. K. Harding.

Armstrong's Picture To Be In Auditorium

The picture of J. N. Armstrong that appeared in last year's Petit Jean is being reworked and is to be hung with those of David Lipscomb and J. A. Harding in the college auditorium.

The picture was made on his 74th birthday and is the last one taken. The project is under the sponsorship of friends and is being done by Hogue in Little Rock.

Passes Quietly At Home Aug. 12

J. N. Armstrong, 74, was found dead in his bed at his home on the Harding College campus August 12, 1944.

He is survived by his widow, Woodson Harding Armstrong, one daughter, Mrs. L. C. Sears, also of Searcy, and two grandsons, Jack Wood Sears of Austin, Texas and James Kern Sears of Columbia, Mo.

The services were held in the college auditorium and were attended by an unusually large group of friends, relatives and college students. The services were opened with a reading of Brother Armstrong's favorite Biblical passages by Dr. George S. Benson. Brother S. A. Bell, who had been associated with him in Bible school work for over forty years, spoke paying high respect to his life and character. The singing was congregational in keeping with Brother Armstrong's wishes.

It was said by local residents that the floral tribute was the largest ever seen in Searcy. Burial was made in Oak Grove Cemetery.

Statement Of President

By George S. Benson

The passing of Dr. J. N. Armstrong is a great loss to Harding College. He was truly a master teacher. His record for leadership in the field of Christian education is unique. His ability to influence young people to want to do right was marvelous. As weeks and months pass he will be missed more and more.

My appeal to faculty members, students and alumni of Harding College is that we all, in recognition of his devotion and his sacrifices, dedicate our lives anew to the cause of deep consecrated Christian service; maintaining the traditional spiritual atmosphere of Harding College, laboring to build genuine unselfish Christian character, and striving for higher and higher academic achievements.

CARD OF THANKS

To the students who were here in the summer school we want to express our grateful appreciation for the most beautiful spray of white flowers. It helped so much at the time when we needed it.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Armstrong and
Mr. and Mrs. Sears.

ARRANGEMENTS MADE FOR CLASSES

Arrangements have been made to fill the classes of J. N. Armstrong made vacant by his death. They are primarily freshman courses.

The three New Testament survey courses which he taught are equally divided between Professor Bell, Professor Mattox and Professor Dykes. His course in the preparation of sermons is now taught by Prof. J. D. Bales. Prof. Leslie Burke is teaching the Greek classes which were formerly under the supervision of Brother Armstrong.

The Bison

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A Great Man Passes

There are times when all of us must stop from the hustle and bustle of this life to pay tribute to a great man who passes on. In this first issue of The Bison we endeavor in our humble way to remember such a great man. For J. N. Armstrong was a great man, great because he was the servant of all.

Brother Armstrong was ready to go. Like Paul, he was ready to be offered and the time of his departure was at hand. He had fought a good fight, he had finished the course, he had kept the faith. And as Paul said of himself, "For to me to live is Christ and to die is gain," so it was with him.

He was not a perfect man as none of us is perfect. He had his strong points and his weaknesses as has each of us. But the spirit of service that characterized his life submerged his weaknesses for all of those who really knew him. Few were the individuals who came in contact with him who went away without being struck by his sincerity and devotion to God.

In the field of Christian education, there was no man of his generation who did more in the service of the Lord. He realized that if the Lord's work is to prosper it must be promulgated by those who have sufficient education to be respected by those with whom they work. There have been others who have given their lives to this work, but none of his time who sacrificed more in doing it.

Brother Armstrong was not without his opponents. Until his death he was severely criticised. Yet he was not afraid to stand for what he believed to be right and never yielded to pressure exerted from without in order to gain the praise of men. He preferred to stand before God without hypocrisy in his beliefs rather than to receive the plaudits of men for preaching something in which he did not believe. And through it all he retained his humility before God.

The hundreds of students who have sat in Brother Armstrong's classes bear living testimony as to what he did to inspire the children of God to press on to the goal that lies before. He enabled them to catch a glimpse of pure undenominational Christianity in the chaos of the religious world, yes, and even in the Church of our Lord. If it be true that graduates of this institution bear the mark of genuine humility, no small part of that is due to him.

The passing of Brother Armstrong is a blow to the college but we may rest assured that his influence will live on. For "he being dead yet speaketh."

"The death angel may take Bro. Armstrong away, but naught can separate us from the path which he taught us to follow, nor from the influence of his teaching and example." —Rena and L. O. Sanderson.

"We all know what a great and good man he was, but only God know how much good Bro. Armstrong did in the world before he went home to be with our Saviour." —George Peppertine.

"If he has not gone to glory there is no use for any of the rest of us to expect to go — But he has gone into that glory." —G. C. Brewer

"He drank of the water which Christ offered to the woman at the well, and it became in him a well of water springing up unto eternal life." —R. H. Boll.

"He was a courteous and elegant gentleman and I always got good when in his presence." —Miss Amanda H. Dye.

"J. N. Armstrong was clothed with the righteousness of God. Devoted to his Christ he sought to imitate him. Zealous for the Church he was a tower of strength against all efforts to turn it into a path of narrow sectarianism." —Woodrow C. Whitten, in telegram to The Bison.

Spirit of Christ

By DALE LARSEN

We read that every good gift is from above and world conditions today show that all institutions of charity, benevolence, and brotherly love, in the great civilization of this century are directly a result of the influence of the spirit of unselfish service that characterizes the Christ and His disciples.

Down through time there have appeared a few individuals who have been outstanding in reproducing the Christ-like spirit from one generation to another. The Apostle Paul was one of the greatest of these outstanding men, and he charged his son, in the faith, Timothy, to teach others so that God's word and will may come on down to the children of ages to come. The great Christian, Timothy, was true to his teacher and his Savior, and along with a few others, did pass the glad tidings of good things on. Paul has gone to be with Christ — Timothy and the others too. They have spent themselves for God and for us. We are grateful that the same great spirit that inspired them has also inspired great Christians today that we might not only read the precious Word but that we may actually see it living in the lives of those few who are following Paul even as he followed Christ.

In the life of our beloved Brother Armstrong, who has joined Paul and the other disciples across the river, we have truly seen the Spirit of Christ. He has been a great link in the chain of life that hangs from God Himself. In our brother's many years of Christian service he has inspired thousands to a clearer vision of the will of God and the joy that it holds for Christians. He has not left a picture before us of tyranny, pride, hardness and bitterness, but rather the spirit of kindness, humility, forgiveness and love.

As children, we loved to sit at his feet, listening to his stories, and to follow him from place to place. As sons and daughters we appreciated his interest and belief in us. As brothers and sisters we sought his council in every affair of life. We saw him exalted among men but he gave God the credit. We saw him mocked and mistreated, but he said, "Father forgive them". We saw him suffer in body and in mind but his prayer was for the souls of men.

While he held the flame, thousands of lives were lighted by its ever increasing glow. These thousands continue to touch the lives of other thousands and the Spirit moves on. It is not our spirit — It is not the spirit of Harding College — It is not his spirit, but it is the Spirit of the Christ that has been mirrored in the life of Brother Armstrong.

College Work Outstanding

Twenty years of service, terminating the useful life of J. N. Armstrong, were equally divided between Christian school work at Morrilton, Ark. and at Searcy, Ark. Twelve of these years his services were performed as president of Harding College. The first ten years, at Morrilton, experienced such growth that it became only an act of wisdom to purchase the plant of Galloway college at Searcy, since it was available at that time. This plant, being three times as large as the one at Morrilton, afforded the expected growth for some time. After two years at Searcy Brother Armstrong deemed it advisable to resign the presidency and accept less strenuous responsibilities. This he did, and, upon the succession of Dr. George S. Benson to the presidency in 1936, became president emeritus and dean of Bible. The remaining eight years of his life were spent in this capacity.

Young preachers of the Gospel who have come under his influence would number into the high thousands, and the percentage of missionaries who have labored on foreign soil as a result of his influence would probably reach seventy five.

Comments of Friends Reveal J. N. Armstrong's Greatness

—B. F. RHODES

As I look back over the past forty-six years, I can freely say, I have not known any man that in many respects was his equal. During these years I had the good fortune to be associated with him. I sat with him in his classroom as a student for three years. Later I taught with him in our Christian College work since September, 1905 till he departed to be with the Lord whom he served so faithfully and zealously. When he died only one man in all the schools of the church of Christ exceeded in length of time in this teaching service.

I have known him in success and in reverses. If he was gloomy as he surveyed the outlook for the school service he so well loved, his faith in God and his fervent determination to go in the path of service the Lord had marked out, strengthened him so that he never faltered or gave up. Most men beset by such difficulties as he faced could not have done what he did.

In his passing the Church has lost a great preacher; the College a most able teacher.

The youth of the schools he so faithfully served will justly cherish his memory. In his time he was the most potent force under God in preparing young people to realize that the greatest possible responsibility in life is for them to devote their time and talents to spread the great ideals of Christian truth in both word and practice.

All around the globe his name is honored by those whose interests he so faithfully served. Many hearts are saddened by his passing; but there is a feeling of satisfaction in knowing the faithful soldier of the Cross has departed to be with his Lord. Not long hence many who have in some small way associated with him in his service will pass to join him in eternal bliss. We are sure when it is ours to depart this life, he will be waiting to greet us as we enter to share his joy in the Lord.

—T. H. SHERRILL

Brother J. N. Armstrong was the greatest spiritual leader of his time. For many years I have been very intimately associated with him. Truly he was to me a father in the gospel. Our admiration for each other was possibly no less given with deep feelings and great purposes than was the beautiful friendship of David and Jonathan. Life took on a new and beautiful meaning for me as my understanding for Brother Armstrong and the things for which he stood grew. I now know that we are made better by the companionship of people better than ourselves. To be closely associated with Brother Armstrong was to be ultimately lead into fellowship with the Highest in Heaven.

It was easy to believe when he taught the word of the Lord for you saw in him a likeness of God. Carlyle wrote: "My kind Mother — One also invaluable service: She taught me less indeed by word than by act and daily reverent look and habitude, her own simple version of the Christian Faith — The highest whom I knew on Earth I here saw bowed down — before a Higher in Heaven." Christ makes this truth as wide as the universe when he says, "If ye had known me, ye should have known my Father also. Thousands will ever be grateful to Brother Armstrong for leading them into deeper and richer spiritual relationships. They will not soon forget. But through them the people in all parts of the world will be blessed with inspiration for nobler Christian living.

Do you ask why Brother Armstrong probably influenced more people in the brotherhood of the church than any man of his generation? Let it be said that the answer is certainly not that he preached himself or in any other way unduly sold himself. For the very opposite manner of life was his. He was a perfect demonstration of humility. He was so humble that he was tremendously big and gracious. Probably no one of his day was so constant in prayer. He was never willing to trust himself with any problem of life without God's help.

—BATSELL BAXTER

It has been my pleasure and blessing to know Bro. Armstrong for a number of years and to teach with him in Christian college work. I have never known another man whose life and teaching have been so fruitful in uplifting and inspiring to young men and young women. They loved him and loved him because they knew that he loved and trusted them. When people who know Harding College have spoken of it, they have always mentioned the deep spiritual atmosphere of the school. Bro. Armstrong furnished a large part of the leadership and inspiration for this. Wherever Harding College students are found that spirit of reverence and devotion and sacrifice in the Master's work is always present.

Students trusted him because of his love for them and because they knew that he trusted them. One incident, among many others, illustrates this. A good many years ago when I was teaching in Cordell Christian College word was brought to Bro. Armstrong that some of the boys were going to the picture show at night when they were supposed to be studying. In chapel the next morning he said, in substance, "You know it's against our rules, young men, and I want all the boys who have been going out this way at night to meet me at 3 o'clock in the room across the hall." He said, "I don't know who or how many have been violating this rule." I asked him after chapel was over, "Bro. Armstrong, do you think any of them will come?" He said, "Yes, I think they'll all be there." Thirty-three young men met him that afternoon although they knew that they could have slipped by and likely never have been caught. He talked to them in a fatherly way. He showed them that the rules were for their good and asked them on their honor to agree not to violate this rule again. This they did and so far as any of us knew, the rule was not broken again that year. It is a wonderful gift to be able to impress and lead young men in that way and to that extent. I mention this incident because it was characteristic of his dealings with the students.

Even those of us who appreciated and admired Bro. Armstrong the most can never measure the inspiration and sacrifice and love for Christianity that his life and teaching have put into the hearts of the students.

—S. A. BELL

I have known Brother Armstrong for many years and I have found him to be an intellectual man and one who was kind both by nature and by training; he was also gentle, firm and studious. In his contacts and associations with people he was truthful and honest. His ideals of moral and social purity were high: he maintained them at all times and taught the students to live by the same high standards.

Brother Armstrong's great faith in and devotion for the Bible and its principles was also one of his outstanding characteristics. He firmly believed the Bible is the inspired word of God, and that it is therefore the complete, perfect, and unerring guide for man in which God revealed himself and His will. He believed God and Christ were personal beings who possessed all power, all knowledge and all wisdom. His great understanding and his deep reverence for them made him humble and obedient.

Toward those who differed with him he was kind and yet courageous and always ready to "contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered for the saints". He understood the scriptures well and taught them in a plain, earnest, sincere manner. He fearlessly taught the Truth. His influence did much to keep the brotherhood balanced, he taught the unlearned, restrained the radical, and inspired all who heard him.

His vision for the school work has done much to give the Christian schools

(Continued on page three)

He Is Just Away

By JAMES WHITCOMB RILEY

I cannot say, and I will not say
That he is dead, — he is just away!
With a cheery smile, and a wave of the hand,
He has wandered into an unknown land,
And left us dreaming how very fair
It needs must be, since he lingers there,
And you, O you, who the wildest yearn
For the old-time step and the glad return,
Think of him faring on, as dear
In the love of there as the love of here;
Think of him still as the same, I say:
He is not dead — he is just away.

PREACHING EXPERIENCE WAS WIDE AND VARIED

By T. H. SHERRILL

In addition to a full time job as president of Christian Colleges where he taught several Bible classes daily and delivered from four to six sermons each week, Brother Armstrong did much effective preaching over a wide territory. He preached in all the Southern States except West Virginia and Virginia, North and South Carolina. His evangelistic work extended from Michigan to Florida and Texas. He also conducted meetings in many of the states west of the Allegheny Mountains to the Pacific Coast. One time he preached in Mexico by radio. In all, he preached the gospel in twenty-two states.

He always had more calls than he could respond to until the last two or three years of his life. During these last years he was "unable physically" to endure the hardships of the evangelistic type of work. However, he taught and preached to the day of his death.

It was his custom to leave for his protracted meeting work at the close of the spring term of college and return about one week before college opened in the fall.

His practice was to hold the meetings in the order they were spoken for regardless of the size of the congregation or the financial ability of the church. He requested long meetings on the ground that more good could be accomplished. Two meetings daily pleased him much better than one. Often he would refuse to go to the same place the third time. He thought another preacher could do more good.

On one occasion he refused to take any pay from a church that he might feel free to tell them their duty. Another interesting practice was that of holding summer meetings to get money to finish paying his college teachers. He could hardly be persuaded to buy needed clothes as long as there were other needs.

Three times in his life he preached for a local church through the summer months. Once for the church in Cleburne, Texas, and another time he preached for the church in Huntsville, Ala. This past summer he preached for the downtown church of Christ in Searcy, Arkansas. Here he delivered three sermons a week — one over the radio and two to the local church. He also conducted prayer meeting once a week and made calls to see about the sick and the needy. During this period he did not neglect his duty as an elder of the College Church. He also spent much time writing letters and articles. Many of his most valuable writings were pulled out of drawers and assembled in order of relative importance during the last few weeks of his life. He was seen about the campus of Harding College and at the homes of neighbors the last days of his life. Even late Friday night he had a pleasant visit with Brother James Bales and others. On Saturday morning his lifeless body was found in bed where he seemed to have fallen asleep in Christ without a struggle. In his room was found his radio sermon which he had prepared for Sunday. No doubt his other two sermons were ready for the local church which he would have delivered that same day. This beautiful ending of his life was as he desired and prayed it would be. Thus was finished one of the most magnanimous spirits of our time. Though he now rests from the cares of his earthly life, the influence of his devotion and services to God continues to speak.

SOCIETY and CLUBS

By DOROTHY DAVIDSON, Editor

Summer Marks Weddings Of Past, Present Students

THORNTON—LARSEN

The lawn wedding of Miss Mary Raylene Thornton and Mr. Dale Larsen was solemnized in Blackwater, Mo., Sunday evening, September 10, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Thornton, parents of the bride. Mr. C. Roy Bixler, church of Christ minister of Kansas City officiated.

The bride was given in marriage by her father. Miss Marilyn Thornton, sister of the bride, was maid of honor, and Mr. Glenn Larsen, brother of the groom, served as best man.

Nuptial music, provided by Mrs. Warner Fray Wing, pianist, and Miss Marilyn Thornton, soloist, consisted of "Oh, Promise Me", "The Sweetest Story Ever Told", and the traditional wedding march from Lohengrin.

A reception was given immediately following the ceremony for the bride and groom.

Mrs. Larsen graduated from Harding in 1942 and Mr. Larsen is now a student of Harding and president of the senior class.

FOREMAN—GUNSELMAN

The wedding of Miss Charline Foreman of Chattanooga, Tenn., to Douglass Gunselman, director of the Harding Training School, took place August 11, at the Vine Street church of Christ in Chattanooga, Tenn. Leslie G. Thomas, minister of the church, read the ceremony.

A chorus of friends sang "At Dawning" and the "Wedding March" preceding the ceremony. Other musical numbers were "I Love You Truly" and "Blest Be the Tie That Binds."

The bride was given in marriage by D. E. Ellis. Miss Virginia Muller was maid of honor and A. G. Hanlin, best man. Both reside in Chattanooga.

The bride is a graduate of Edmondson School of Business. She attended Harding College in 1941 and '42 and was a member of the girls' trio, chorus, W. H. C. club, and winner of the girls' Oratorical Contest.

Mr. Gunselman is the son of Mr. and Mrs. William J. Gunselman of Lawrenceburg, Tenn. He is a graduate of Harding and received his Master's degree from Peabody College in Nashville.

WILSON—HUNTER

The marriage of Miss La Vern Wilson of Boas, Kentucky, and Corporal Garland Wilson i'nter took place Sunday, August 27 at 3:00 p. m. The wedding service which was held in the church of Christ in Berkeley, Calif. was conducted by R. C. Cannon.

The bride was given away by Dr. William Green. Her maid of honor was Miss Shirley Harris. The groom chose Robert Helsten as best man.

A reception for the bridal party was given in the home of Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Cannon. Shortly after the couple left for Denver, Colo., for their honeymoon.

Editor Writes From England

The following is an excerpt of a letter written to his father by Sam Peebles, editor of The Bison in 1937-38. He is now somewhere in England.

"Mother wrote that Brother Armstrong is dead. Surely his life was full and gainfully spent day by day. Judging by the number of Beatitudes under which he could be classified he was and is a great man indeed when you total the rewards due him. To the best of my observations he was surely meek, pure in heart, a peace maker, he hungered and thirsted after righteousness, and without doubt he was persecuted and said all manner of evil against "falsely for my sake."

I am sure there are many thousands who will wear the imprint of lessons he taught as long as they shall live. Though I never knew Brother Lipscomb or Harding I believe from what I have heard of them that Brother Armstrong was a man at least of their caliber."

The ceremony was read in the church of Christ Sunday evening at 9:30 by Jack Nadeau, former roommate of the groom, at Harding College. The reception was at the home of Mrs. Kathryn Silvy, sister of F. W. Mattox, teacher in Harding College. After the reception the couple left for Winnemucca, Arizona, where Mr. Blackburn was to preach.

Miss Skelton graduated from high school at Shawnee, Okla., in 1939, and has been working in the Oklahoma county office of the state old age assistance department.

Mr. Blackburn graduated from Harding College last spring and has been in missionary work since.

CASTLEBERRY—WILSON

Miss Betty Lou Castleberry, daughter of Mrs. George Bryan, of England and Jack Wilson were united in marriage August 10.

The bride is a former student of Harding College. She will live with her mother for the present.

—S. A. BELL

(Continued from page two)

a place among the better colleges of the country. He worked for better standing among the crediting agencies, a better faculty, library, equipment, and buildings. Besides his visions for the school, and his efforts for pleasant working conditions for his faculty, perhaps his greatest ability was in knowing personally and influencing every student who came to the College. In teaching the freshman Bible classes he personally instructed every student. It is perhaps this class which students remember most vividly and which has been the greatest influence in their lives.

His chapel talks were always refreshing, instructive, and inspiring. In his effective and forceful way he filled his speeches with good thoughts which influenced students to higher Christian living from day to day. He discussed such subjects as God's providence, prayer, the conscience, courtship, marriage, honesty, courage, truth, sincerity and a great host of others.

Many of his students were inspired to preach the Gospel, and for many years the majority of foreign missionaries in the church where once students in his Bible classes. They were inspired to enter this phase of Christian Service by his sincere, simple teachings of the fundamentals of the Gospel.

Brother Armstrong reached the public and was therefore able to further extend his great influence by his preaching, by his radio talks and by his use of the religious press.

Indeed a giant in Christ has lived and worked among us.

—S. P. PITTMAN

It was, indeed, a shock to learn that Bro. Armstrong was gone. But, as he would say, was it not glorious, after all, that he could quietly slip away from this good home of his to a far better one — a home that he has been sending up material for construction during the many years he lived and labored?

Perhaps those two words tell tale — lived and labored. His philosophy of life, created in his mind to a great extent by his illustrious father-in-law, was one that made life worth living — a beautiful thing every day. It resembled the life of the great apostle who advised: "In nothing be anxious; but in everything, by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God."

As for his labors, they are too numerous to be recounted. They are recorded up above, where honor to whom honor is due finds its worthy subjects. His labors have been criticized at times by those who should have appreciated him more; but one of the marks of a genuine Christian is that he suffers persecution.

"Painstaking" expresses his character as a teacher, and "indefatigable" expresses his character as a preacher of the Gospel.

If ever a man has called him a "soft-soaper", let that man bow his head in shame and penitence, are the judgment comes to make him blush.

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Freshmen, Faculty Defeated In Softball By Upper Classmen

The college sports program got under way last Tuesday afternoon with a softball game between the freshmen and the upper classmen.

The upper classmen proved their superiority by overwhelming the freshmen by a score of 15-2. The battery for the winning team was Elliot and Cannon, and for the losers, Farrar and Ganus.

The upper classmen proved that to pursue knowledge extensively is to decline physically as they pounded out an 11-2 victory over the faculty in their softball game last Thursday afternoon.

The faculty showed a lot of spirit and sportsmanship but the energy and teamwork of the younger men finally proved to much for them. The winning pitcher was Clinton Elliot, the losing pitcher was Jess Rhodes.

—ARMSTRONG

(Continued from page one.)

tant states. The endowment was trebled, two new buildings were constructed, but the enrollment grew beyond their capacity. In this emergency the Board voted for the union of Harper College with the new institution in Arkansas, and Brother Armstrong became the first president of Harding College in 1924.

The period from 1924 until his resignation from the presidency in 1936 marked the fullest development of his service. In the dark period of the depression it was his faith that inspired teachers and carried the institution through, and his unselfishness that held their devotion and loyalty. For several years he refused to accept any salary in order that his portion might be divided among the rest.

The period from 1936 till his death August 12, 1944, saw the full fruition of his long service. As President Emeritus he could watch over the further progress of the work which he so loved, and as head of the Bible department he could still be active in it. The quietness of his going was like a benediction from above on his life of perfect loyalty and faith.

—NEW TEACHERS

(Continued from page one.)

and a member of the chorus, glee club, and Sub-T club. He was employed in the physical education department here in 1940-41 and taught in Peabody while attending there. While at Peabody he was a member of Phi Delta Kappa, Kappa Phi Kappa, and Pi Gamma Mu. Mr. Rhodes attended the University of Denver in 1941-42 and taught in the Denver public schools. He will be in charge of all physical education activities this year.

Leslie Burke, professor of Greek and English, taught at Harding for four years while working on his degree. He also taught two years in the academy and received his degree from Harding in 1939. Mr. Burke's home is in Memphis, Tenn.

Jess Rhodes joins the faculty as head of the business administration department. He graduated from Harding in 1939 and received his M. A. from the University of Oklahoma in Norman. While at Harding he was a member of the glee club, band, boy's quarter, Sub-T club, and manager of the College Inn.

Miss Norma Ruth Moser comes to Harding as a teacher in the business administration department. She is a graduate of Abilene Christian College and has attended John Tarleton College in Stephenville, Texas. Her home is in Greggton, Texas.

Miss Annie May Alston of Henning, Tenn., joins the faculty as instructor in English and supervisor of the East

Wing. She graduated from Harding in 1939 and was senior queen, best all-around, honor student, a member of the Petit Jean staff, and a member of W. H. C. She received her B. S. N. L. S. from Peabody College in 1943.

H. D. Chronic will conduct orchestra, band, and give private instrument instruction this year. The band will be a combination of talent from Searcy high school and Harding, but the orchestra will be composed of Harding students only. Mr. Chronic lives in Searcy.

Mabrey Miller is instructor in science and mathematics in the academy this year. He graduated from Harding in 1943 and has since been doing teaching and missionary work. While at Harding he was a member of the chorus, glee club, and active in sports. He was married to Madge Black on May 30th.

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